

**IN THE ABSTRACT**

Please replace the abstract with the following rewritten abstract:

-- The present invention relates to a network connection apparatus for connecting a plurality of network terminals to an external network such as the Internet. In accordance with the present invention, there provides an easy-to-use network connection apparatus capable of building up an easy and flexible network system by providing the user with plurality types of interface. Specifically, the network connection apparatus comprises a first interface unit including at least one physical layer for connecting to an external network, a second interface unit including a plurality of physical layers for connecting to an internal network, and a controller for controlling the first interface unit and the second interface unit, wherein the second interface unit is capable of independent operation from the first interface unit, and the controller transmits and receives information between the first interface unit and second interface unit, and between the second interface units. --